

Biography: Colonel Michael X. Garrett

Colonel Michael X. Garrett graduated from Xavier University in 1984 with a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice and was commissioned in the United States Army as an Infantryman. His first assignment was as platoon leader and executive officer in the 3rd Battalion, 19th Infantry at Fort Stewart, Georgia. After being selected to serve in the Ranger Regiment, he served as platoon leader and executive officer in the 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment at Hunter Army Airfield, Fort Stewart, Georgia.

Upon completing the Infantry Officer Advanced Course, he served as a staff officer and then took command of Combat Support Company, 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry and later assumed command of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Hovey, Korea. After company command, he was selected as an aide-de-camp for the commander of the 2nd Infantry Division. He then returned to the Ranger Regiment in Fort Benning, Georgia. He initially served as the assistant operations officer in the 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment and then took command of Company A, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment. Following command he served on the 75th Ranger Regiment staff as the Ranger Liaison Officer to Pacific Command, Army Command, and Southern Command.

In 1995, he attended the Command and General Staff College and was sent to Fort Lewis, Washington where he served as the Battalion Liaison Officer and Operations officer for 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment. After two years at Fort Lewis, he was assigned to United States Pacific Command as a Regional Exercises Officer and Training Chief of the Deployable Joint Force Augmentation Cell.

In June 2000, he took command of the 3rd Battalion, 325th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Infantry Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Following command, he became the 18th Airborne Corps Chief of Current Operations serving both at Fort Bragg and Bagram, Afghanistan.

In June 2003, he was assigned to the United States Military Academy, serving as the 2nd Regimental Tactical Officer, United States Corps of Cadets and then as the Brigade Tactical officer. In July 2004, he became the Director, Department of Military Instruction, United States Military Academy, West Point, NY.

Colonel Garrett assumed command of 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division on Feb. 15, 2005. In October 2006, he deployed the unit to Operation Iraqi Freedom.

His military education includes the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, and the Command and General Staff College. He is also a senior service college selectee. His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious, Meritorious Service Medal (3rd award), Army Commendation Medal (2nd award), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Army Service Medal, Ranger Tab, Expert Infantry Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Pathfinder Badge, and the Air Assault Badge.